Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein the ~~lattice elements~~ grid members are unmilled.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein the ~~lattice elements~~ grid members have structural elevations and depressions and are bonded together in the region of their contact points.

Claims 4-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein at least one ~~lattice element~~ grid member has between 5 or 10 and 1500 or 1200 yarns per cm.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein the stacked ~~lattice elements~~ grid members have differing structures.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein one ~~lattice element~~ grid member is finer than another ~~lattice element~~ grid member.

Claims 9-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein one ~~lattice element~~ grid member is an expanded metal ~~(31)~~.

Claim 13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein the filter material comprises at least three stacked ~~lattice elements~~ grid members.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein the stacked ~~lattice elements~~ grid members are made from different materials.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein the filter material comprises a weld flange.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein spacers are disposed between the first and second ~~lattice elements~~ grid members.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 17, wherein the spacers are welded to the ~~lattice elements~~ grid members.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein a filter material comprises two ~~lattice elements~~ grid members with a fine structure that are each welded to ~~lattice elements~~ grid members having a coarser structure and spacers are disposed between the ~~lattice elements~~ grid members having the coarser structures.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein, in the border regions, the filter material comprises a sheet metal strip in the direction of its longitudinal axis.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 20, wherein the sheet metal strip ~~(34, 35)~~ is less than 100 mm wide.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 20, wherein the sheet metal strip projects at least partially beyond at least one ~~lattice element~~ grid member.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The filter material according to claim 20, wherein two sheet metal strips are welded together.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The filter material according to claim 34, wherein the filter material comprises a frame.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The filter material according to claim 24, wherein the frame is at least partially disposed between two ~~lattice elements~~ grid members.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A filter body, wherein the filter body comprises a filter material according to claim 34.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The filter body according to claim 26, wherein the filter body is a filter frame, a filter plate, a filter with a U-shaped profile, a filter ring or a filter cylinder.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A method of manufacturing a filter material (9; 18; 24) consisting of several grid members (1; 2; 30, 31), **characterized in that** the method comprises welding the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) together.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28, **characterized in that** the method comprises welding the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) together to form a continuous length of material.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28, **characterized in that** the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) are pressed together at a pressure in excess of 30 bar, preferably in excess of 50 bar, during the welding process.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28, **characterized in that** the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) are welded

with a weld impulse of less than 10 milliseconds or of less than 5 milliseconds, preferably of about 2 milliseconds.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28, **characterized in that**, for welding, the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) are pressed against each other using at least one welding die.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The method according to, claim 28 **characterized in that** the filter material (9; 18; 24) is provided with sheet metal elements and that the sheet metal elements are welded together so that the filter material (9; 18; 24) yields a cylindrical filter body.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A filter material comprising first and second stacked ~~lattice elements~~ substantially planar sheet metal grid members having a welded connection between the ~~lattice elements~~ grid members, said filter material having more than 20 welded connections per 1.0 square centimeter and at least one of the ~~lattice elements has~~ grid members having openings with a diameter of less than 2.0 mm.

Claim 35 (new): A filter material comprising first, second and third stacked substantially planar sheet metal grid members having a welded connection between the grid members, said filter material having more than 20 welded connections per 1.0 square centimeter;

wherein the second grid member has a coarser structure than the first and third grid members and is disposed between the first and third grid members and at least one of the first and third grid members has openings with a diameter of less than 2.0 mm.